

in, however, the skirmishers of the enemy. My first line of battle was now within 180 yards of the enemy's line, at the house of Mrs. William Smith.

At this point a battery, about 100 yards west of the house, opened with canister upon the Twenty-first Illinois Volunteers, and another, on the east of the house, 250 yards distant, on the Fifteenth Wisconsin Volunteers, killing and wounding a number of my men. Here it was my intention to halt until the First and Third Brigades should come up, on my right and left, respectively; but Col. J. W. S. Alexander, commanding Twenty-first Illinois Volunteers, without instructions from me, ordered his regiment to charge on the battery in his front. His command was moving, with a shout, at double-quick step, within 80 yards of the battery, already abandoned by its cannoneers, when a very heavy fire was opened upon it by infantry, which lay concealed behind fences and outhouses, on the right and left of the battery. This fire killed and wounded a large number of the Twenty-first Illinois Volunteers, and threw the left companies into some disorder, when the regiment was halted and formed on the right of the Fifteenth Wisconsin Volunteers.

The fight was now fairly opened, and continued vigorously until night by the front line of my infantry and the battery which had been placed between the two regiments. The batteries in our front were soon silenced, but another was then opened on my right flank, distant about 500 yards, which completely enfiladed my lines and considerably injured us; but this, too, was driven out of sight by Captain Hotchkiss, after a vigorous and well-directed fire.

Again I sent a request to Colonels Post and Woodruff to come up, but they continued to remain in rear of my lines. I maintained my position during the night, having at dark relieved my front line by the Thirty-eighth Illinois and One hundred and first Ohio Volunteers.

My loss during this day, in killed, wounded, and missing, was about 175 officers and men. Before daylight on the morning of December 31, perceiving indications of an advance by the enemy, I retired my battery about 200 yards. At daylight the enemy advanced. Seeing that the troops on the right and left of my line would not come up, I fell back, with my infantry on a line with my battery, and made a stand; the Twenty-first Illinois Volunteers about 200 yards to the rear, and on the right of the One hundred and first Ohio Volunteers; the Fifteenth Wisconsin Volunteers were posted on the rocks in front of my battery, and the Thirty-eighth Illinois Volunteers on the left of the One hundred and first Ohio Volunteers.

My men were falling rapidly on the front line, and, wishing to increase the fire on the enemy, I sent an order to Colonel Alexander to advance and form on the right of the One hundred and first Ohio Volunteers, and to Colonel Heg, Fifteenth Wisconsin Volunteers, to form on the left of the Thirty-eighth Illinois Volunteers, and to my battery to retire. To my surprise, I received a reply from Colonel Alexander that he was already so hotly engaged that he could not come forward. The startling intelligence was also at this moment communicated to me, by one of my orderlies, that all our forces on our right had left the ground. Immediately afterward a heavy fire of musketry and artillery from the enemy, from my right flank and rear, unmistakably announced that I was also attacked from that direction.

On my left Woodruff's brigade had left the ground. My command was thus exposed to fire from all points, except the left of my rear. When too late to retire in good order, I found that I was overpowered, and but a moment was wanting to place my brigade in the hands of

the foe. I decided to retreat by the left flank, when my horse was shot under me and myself struck, and all my staff and orderlies dismounted or otherwise engaged, which prevented me from communicating the order to the regimental commanders. The rear line, then consisting of the Twenty-first Illinois Volunteers, was the first to withdraw, by the order of Lieutenant-Colonel McMackin, then commanding, Colonel Alexander having been wounded. Colonel Stem and Lieutenant-Colonel Wooster, of the One hundred and first Ohio Volunteers, having been shot down, and the ranks of the regiment dreadfully thinned by the fire of the enemy, it gave way and retreated. The Thirty-eighth Illinois Volunteers held its position until the enemy was within a few steps, and then retired. This regiment would have suffered far more severely in its retreat had not a heavy fire from the Fifteenth Wisconsin Volunteers, judiciously posted by Colonel Heg to its left and rear, kept the enemy in check until it had left the wood and partially reformed along the fence, on the right of the Fifteenth Wisconsin Volunteers, where an effective fire was kept up, holding the enemy at bay.

This only gave the foe on our right and left the more time to envelop us. All that now remained of my brigade crossed two open fields and entered a wood about 200 yards east of Griscom's house.

The regiments were painfully reduced in numbers, but I formed a line at this point, and several volleys of musketry and artillery were fired with destructive effect upon the ranks of the enemy; but the foe was still on our right at Griscom's house, with none of our forces at that point to oppose them, and being informed that General Davis had ordered a still farther withdrawal, I retired my command about half a mile to our rear, and again endeavored to rally the men, but it was evident that they were so utterly discouraged that no substantial good could result, while no supports were in sight.

At another point, about half a mile farther to our rear, I rallied all who could be found, and took a strong position in the edge of a cedar grove, holding it until the enemy came up, when my men fired one volley, and broke without orders. I conducted them to the rear, passing through the lines of our reserves, and halted at the railroad, where we remained during the afternoon collecting our scattered men.

During the two days' fight the loss of officers was so great that some companies had not one to command them, and others not even a sergeant. Our regimental colors were all borne off the field flying, though four color-bearers in succession, of the Twenty-first Illinois Volunteers, were shot down, and two of the color-guard of the Thirty-eighth Illinois Volunteers, three of the color-guard of the Fifteenth Wisconsin Volunteers, and four of the color-guard of the One hundred and first Ohio Volunteers fell. Our artillery was all brought off in safety.

I have to report the loss of many officers, who were ornaments to our army, and who will be mourned by all who knew them. Col. L. Stem, One hundred and first Ohio Volunteers; Lieut. Col. David McKee, Fifteenth Wisconsin Volunteers, and Lieut. Col. M. F. Wooster, One hundred and first Ohio Volunteers, were unsurpassed in all the qualities that make up the brave soldier, the true gentleman, and the pure patriot. Capt. James P. Mead, Thirty-eighth Illinois Volunteers, fell, shot three times, while bravely fighting the enemy with his revolver after his regiment had retired. Lieut. John L. Dillon, Thirty-eighth Illinois Volunteers, commanding Company E, fought with a musket until he was shot once, when he drew his sword and cheered on his men till he fell dead. Other instances of equal gallantry were observed in the other regiments, but to recount all would give my report an undue

length. The long, sad list of killed and wounded forms the truest eulogium on the conduct of the troops composing this brigade, and it is by that list I wish it to be judged.

Of the 10 field officers of the regiments, 3 were killed and 2 wounded. Seven horses were shot under the regimental, field, and staff officers. Of my orderlies, Private Pease, Company B, Thirty-sixth Illinois Volunteers, had his horse shot under him while carrying my orders. Private Knox, same company, also had his horse shot under him, and while endeavoring to procure another horse for me was wounded by a grape-shot and again by a Minié ball, and Corporal Hart, **Thirty-eighth Illinois Volunteers**, was stunned and disabled by a cannon ball.

I deem it my duty to call the special attention of the general commanding the Fourteenth Army Corps to Col. John W. S. Alexander, Twenty-first Illinois Volunteers, and Col. Hans C. Heg, Fifteenth Wisconsin Volunteers. While every field officer under my command did his duty faithfully, Colonels Alexander and Heg, in my opinion, proved themselves the bravest of the brave. Had such men as these been in command of some of our brigades, we should have been spared the shame of witnessing the rout of our troops and the disgraceful panic, encouraged, at least, by the example and advice of officers high in command.

Lieut. Col. D. H. Gilmer, commanding **Thirty-eighth Illinois Volunteers**, was always at his post and attending to his duty. Maj. Isaac M. Kirby, One hundred and first Ohio Volunteers, took command of the regiment after the fall of the brave Colonels Stem and Wooster, and conducted it to the rear, reduced to about 100 men.

Capt. W. A. Hotchkiss, commanding Second Minnesota Battery, and all his officers and men, deserve credit for their gallantry in the fight, and energy in preventing the loss of the battery.

Among the staff officers of this army who made themselves useful in rallying the scattered men, Dr. L. F. Russell, Second Minnesota Battery; Lieut. S. M. Jones, Fifty-ninth Illinois Volunteers; Captain Thruston, aide-de-camp to Major-General McCook, and Chaplain Wilkins, Twenty-first Illinois Volunteers, came especially under my observation.

On the night of December 31 this brigade was ordered to take up position near the Nashville pike, 4 miles from Murfreesborough.

January 1, 1863, slight skirmishing with the enemy continued during the day, in which we killed several, capturing 13 prisoners and paroling 11 others, wounded.

At 3.30 p. m. January 2, while hard fighting was progressing on our left, I received orders from General Rosecrans to report to him in person. He directed me to take my command to the left, form it in two lines, and, should I find our forces repulsed by the enemy, to allow our men to pass through my lines, and, on the approach of the enemy, give a whoop and a yell, and go at 'em. With a brigade which, in three days' hard fighting, had been reduced from 2,000 to 700 and greatly discouraged, I felt serious apprehension that I would not be able to fulfill the expectations of the general, and, to prepare him for such a result, I informed him of the condition of my brigade. He said, "Tell them they must do it for us and for the country." I told him I would do my best. My men fell into ranks with the utmost alacrity and marched to the scene of the conflict, a great portion of the way on the double-quick, crossing Stone's River at a ford. All apprehensions that I had previously entertained now vanished. I felt confident that they would not only charge the enemy, but would repulse them. Before reaching the ground designated, however, I learned that the enemy had already been

driven back in confusion. I continued my march, and, under the direction of Brigadier-General Davis, placed my command in the advance, relieving the command of Colonel Hazen. It was now dark. We maintained our ground till the morning of January 4, when we returned to our position on the right.

My loss in killed, wounded, and missing in the engagement at Knob Gap, near Nolensville, December 26, and the battles of December 30 and 31, 1862, and in front of the enemy east of Stone's River, January 2 and 3, 1863, is as follows:

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Missing.		Total.
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	
21st Illinois.....	2	55	7	180	.....	59	303
38th Illinois.....	2	32	5	104	.....	34	177
101st Ohio.....	4	19	2	121	.....	66	212
15th Wisconsin.....	2	13	5	65	1	33	119
2d Minnesota Battery.....	.....	3	1	5	.....	1	10
Total.....	10	122	20	475	1	193	821

I cannot close this report without expressing my obligations to the following-named officers of my staff for their zeal, fidelity, and courage in all the severe engagements embraced in this report, viz: Capt. S. P. Voris, **Thirty-eighth Illinois Volunteers**, acting assistant adjutant-general; Capt. W. C. Harris, **Thirty-eighth Illinois Volunteers**; Lieut. Albert Woodbury, Second Minnesota Battery, and Lieut. Walter E. Carlin, **Thirty-eighth Illinois Volunteers**. Also to my faithful orderlies, Pease, Knox, Amick, and Hart. Private Alexander C. Hosmer, One hundred and first Ohio Volunteers, my clerk, though not required to go into the battle, was constantly at my side to carry my orders.

Regimental reports and lists of casualties are herewith inclosed; also a report of the engagement at Knob Gap, near Nolensville, December 26, 1862.

A topographical sketch, showing the ground passed over and positions occupied by this brigade on December 30 and 31, 1862, is herewith inclosed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. P. CARLIN,

Colonel Thirty-eighth Illinois Volunteers, Commanding.

Lieut. T. W. MORRISON,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 26.

Report of Maj. Isaac M. Kirby, One hundred and first Ohio Infantry.

NEAR MURFREESBOROUGH,

January 5, 1863.

CAPTAIN: On the morning of December 26, 1862, in our proper position in the brigade, the regiment (Colonel Stem commanding) marched from our camp, near Nashville, out on the Edmondson pike. Com-

two rifle guns posted in rear of Harding's dwelling, the battery on my right completely enfilading my line, but was firing over me, doing but little damage, except from falling limbs. The battery in my front occupied all of my guns. After a rapid fire of from three-quarters to an hour this battery was driven from its place. I continued to fire at it until they gained cover of a hill.

In this engagement Corporal Burke, while gallantly performing the duties of gunner, had his thumb shot off. Privates Quinn and Brady were slightly hurt by a falling limb.

None of my horses were hurt, and only slight damage done to my guns, viz: One sponge-staff shot in two, one spoke from right wheel of left center gun shot out by piece of shell, and the trail hand-spike of the first gun shot off.

I remained in this position until dark without firing, as the rifle guns to my right were out of my reach. The enemy's skirmishers, having taken a position about 350 yards from our lines, kept up a rattling fire (doing no damage) until dark, when I moved my command to the rear, to feed and rest my men for the night, where I received a supply of ammunition.

At daylight I received orders from the brigade commander to move at the same time the line of infantry charged to my first position, on the left of the brigade, and cover the charge. I moved to the left and came into battery, but found I could do nothing from that position, and, finding that the right of the line was hard pressed, I moved to the right to support the Tenth and Nineteenth South Carolina Regiments, from which point I commenced firing on the enemy's infantry, and was immediately opened on by one of the enemy's batteries, posted in the wood to the right of the Nolensville turnpike. Our infantry having fallen back to the old line, I kept up a regular fire to cover their preparations for a fresh charge. During the time between the first and second charges, some general officer, with staff escort, came to the front of the enemy's line, and in about 500 yards of my position. I gave them a few rounds of shot and shell, when they retired at a run. I think I must have done them some damage, as I saw my shell burst and shot strike among them, and afterward found one of the horses killed with a round shot. Our line being reformed, made a second charge, drove the enemy across a field within short range, where I had a good chance and gave them spherical case and canister.

During this engagement I regret to have to report Private Richard Murphy killed, Private William Shea wounded, and 1 of my lead horses killed and 2 others so badly wounded that I was compelled to leave them.

I was then ordered to report to Brigadier-General Maney, which I did, and was ordered to remain under cover until he could find a place for me, which I did. My command was not again brought into action. I continued to follow in rear of my brigade until dark, when I took a position in the woods to the left of the Nolensville pike for the night, and here received a full supply of ammunition for my 6-pounder guns and some 12-pounder ammunition.

I met with a great deal of trouble from the great number of friction-primers that were worthless. I was compelled to make on the field quill-primers, which answered the purpose. I would here request that a supply of primers be furnished my battery at once, as it would be totally unserviceable in a fight as it is.

I would here request to mention the gallant conduct of First Lieut. Charles W. Watkins, to whom I was greatly indebted for his coolness and close attention to orders while under fire; also Sergeants Martin,

Turner, and Armstrong. In mentioning these names I do not wish to detract from the rest of my command, all of whom acted with great coolness and attention, the gunners firing slowly and deliberately, doing good service.

I found that the lack of long-range guns was a great drawback to our batteries, for the enemy could, at a distance too far for us, fire upon our lines without interruption and in perfect safety, making his aim more accurate and fire more destructive.

I regret to report that, upon the night of the 30th, Quartermaster Sergt. Thomas Maxwell, while attempting to get to the company with rations, passed through a gap in our line of battle between the left of the Fourth Brigade and the right of the First, was fired upon by the enemy's pickets, killing his horse and wounding him very severely in the knee.

Major, I am, respectfully,

D. D. WATERS,
Captain, Commanding Waters' Battery.

No. 224.

Report of Lieut. Gen. William J. Hardee, C. S. Army, commanding Army Corps.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
Tullahoma, Tenn., March 11, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to forward, by the hands of Col. J. H. Kelly, Eighth Arkansas Volunteers, Lieutenant-General Hardee's corps, the report of that general of the part taken by his corps in the battle of Murfreesborough, December 31 to January 3; also the reports of division and brigade commanders, including those of Major-General McCown's division, which was, during the most important part of the operations, under Lieutenant-General Hardee.

Some errors and misapprehensions of Major-General Breckinridge, incorporated in his report, will be corrected by reference to copies of notes received from him on the field of battle, and which are appended to the report, with an order for the cavalry movement, indorsed by Brigadier-General Pegram as "received." To these papers, appended to General B[reckinridge]'s report, I invite special attention.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General, Commanding.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS HARDEE'S CORPS,
Tullahoma, Tenn., February 28, 1863.

COLONEL: After the campaign in Kentucky, our forces were collected at Murfreesborough, while the enemy gradually concentrated an army, reported 70,000 strong, around Nashville. Every preparation that forecast could suggest was made by them to crush our army and obtain possession of Central Tennessee. For nearly two months there was apparent inaction, interrupted only by skirmishes, raids, and a successful affair at Hartsville. The enemy occupied Nashville, their right extend-

ing toward Franklin and their left toward Lebanon. Our center was at Murfreesborough, under Lieutenant-General Polk, our right at Readyville, under Major-General McCown, and our left at Triune and Eagleville.

Such was the situation of the armies when information was received, on December 26, that General Rosecrans was advancing with 60,000 men from Nashville against Murfreesborough. The first demonstration was made against Triune by an advance of the enemy on the Shelbyville turnpike. Cleburne's division and Adams' brigade, under my immediate command, were posted in that vicinity. The commanding general having decided to accept battle and to defend Murfreesborough, I withdrew my command the succeeding day by his order, leaving Wood's brigade and Wharton's cavalry to skirmish with the enemy near Triune. This was done boldly and successfully, and they rejoined the command on the 28th at Murfreesborough. My corps consisted of Breckinridge's and Cleburne's divisions (each of four brigades) and Wheeler's brigade of cavalry.

Murfreesborough is situated 30 miles southeast of Nashville, in a fertile, gently undulating, and highly cultivated country, in the midst of the great plain that stretches from the base of the Cumberland Mountains toward Nashville. The Chattanooga Railroad, the chief line of communication from Tennessee to the South Atlantic States, passes through it, and numerous excellent turnpikes radiate from it in every direction. Stone's River flows about 2 miles west of the town, through low banks of limestone, steep, and in some places difficult to pass, and gradually trends to the north as a tributary of the Cumberland. At this time the stream could everywhere be passed without difficulty by infantry, and at the usual fords was not more than ankle-deep, but heavy rains in a few hours swell it to an impassable torrent, and it subsides as rapidly. The road to Lebanon passes nearly due north from Murfreesborough; that to Triune nearly west; that to Salem a little south of west, and the Nashville turnpike northwest, crossing Stone's River about 1½ miles from Murfreesborough. The railroad, leaving the depot on the west of the town, crosses Stone's River about 200 yards above the turnpike ford. At 400 or 500 yards beyond this it intersects the Nashville turnpike at a very acute angle, running between it and the river for about 700 yards, when the stream turns to the east by a sharp bend, and then resumes its northern course. The field of battle offered no peculiar advantages for defense. The open fields beyond the town are fringed with dense cedar brakes, offering excellent shelter for approaching infantry, and are almost impervious to artillery. The country on every side is entirely open, and was accessible to the enemy.

On Sunday morning, December 28, the troops were moved into line of battle. The river separated our right from the left. By order of the commanding general, the space between the Lebanon road and the ford on the Nashville road, making the right of the army, was occupied by my corps. I arranged my troops in two lines, Breckinridge's division forming the first line and Cleburne's the second. The former was arranged with Adams' brigade resting on the Lebanon road, about 1½ miles from the town. The line was broken by an intervening field about 300 yards wide, which was left apparently unoccupied, but was covered by the Twentieth Tennessee and [E. E.] Wright's [Tennessee] battery, of Preston's brigade, which swept it and the field in front. The remainder of Preston's brigade rested with its right in the woods, and extended along the margin of the grove, with its left toward the river. Palmer's and Hanson's brigades completed the line, with the left of Hanson resting

near the ford. Cleburne's division was posted 800 yards in rear of, and parallel to, that of Breckinridge. Polk's corps extended beyond the river, with its right near the stream, and about 200 yards in advance of my left. Withers' division formed the front line of this corps, and Cheatham's the second, while McCown's division was held in reserve near the town.

No movement of importance occurred until Monday evening. It was deemed necessary to hold a hill situated about 600 yards in advance of Hanson's brigade, as it commanded the sloping hill-sides toward the river in front, and from it the right of General Polk's line could be enfiladed. In the evening the enemy attempted to take this position, but was vigorously repulsed by a portion of Hanson's brigade, and the hill was occupied by our batteries.

During Monday night the cavalry of Brigadier-General Wheeler, attached to my corps, was moved from our right by a circuitous route through Jefferson and La Vergne against the communications of the enemy. After making an entire circuit of the enemy's lines, this daring officer, having inflicted severe injury by the destruction of several hundred wagons and many small-arms, and by the capture of several hundred prisoners, returned through Nolensville and Triune to Murfreesborough.

The next day (Tuesday, the 30th) heavy skirmishing took place on our left between the right of the enemy and the command of Lieutenant-General Polk.

In the afternoon of that day I received instructions from the commanding general to proceed to the left, to take command of McCown's division, to place it in position, and to move Cleburne's division from our extreme right in the same direction. The order was communicated to Cleburne, and I proceeded at once to the left. I found McCown's division, consisting of three brigades, in two lines—Ector's and Rains' brigades in the first, and McNair's in the second line, with Rains' brigade so situated as to be enfiladed by a battery from the enemy. Orders were given to rectify the position of Rains, and to place McNair on the first line. Cleburne's division was brought forward and placed 500 yards in rear of McCown, as a second line. During the night, the commanding general having determined to attack the enemy on our left, Brigadier-General Wharton was ordered to report to me, and I was instructed, with the two divisions mentioned and Wharton's cavalry, to commence the attack at dawn the next morning. The new position which my command now occupied is embraced in the angle between the Salem turnpike and the Triune road. About half a mile from Murfreesborough, on the Nashville road, the Wilkinson turnpike diverges to the left, passing nearly equidistant between it and the Triune road. Each of these roads crosses Stone's River about 1½ miles west of the town. The river makes a bend in the shape of a horseshoe to the west, and the roads cross at the bases of the bend. The enemy's right was about three-quarters of a mile beyond the river, with their line south of the Triune road, and extending almost northwardly toward the Wilkinson pike and the Nashville road. The force under my immediate command Wednesday morning was 10,045 infantry and artillery, under McCown and Cleburne, and 2,000 cavalry, under Brigadier-General Wharton.

I ordered Wharton to make a detour of the enemy's right, and to fall upon their flank and rear, while the infantry and artillery moved upon them in front. He dashed forward at a gallop at daybreak, and soon reached the Wilkinson turnpike, 2½ miles in the rear. With Colonel [John T.] Cox's command [First Confederate Cavalry], he charged with

retuosity and took prisoners the Seventy-fifth Illinois Regiment, S. P.] Christian, of the Texas Rangers [Eighth Texas Cavalry], companies, at the same time charged and took a complete bath the enemy, with all its guns, caissons, horses, and artillery. dashes 1,500 prisoners fell into our hands. Wharton attempted around toward the Nashville turnpike, and found the enemy's position to defend their menaced trains. Harrison, Ashby, ly were ordered to charge. This was met by a counter-charge emy, supposed to be the Fourth Regular Cavalry, who were confusion. The entire cavalry force of the enemy was beyond this point. Wharton's entire brigade was now ordered to 2,000 horsemen dashed forward to the assault. The field was, the charge irresistible, the conflict short. The enemy fled in ay 2 miles beyond Overall's Creek, leaving in our hands several wagons, 400 additional prisoners, and several pieces of artillery. duct of Wharton and his brigade cannot be too highly com- After a day of brilliant achievements, he covered the left of ry at night.

General McCown having failed to get McNair's brigade on the ttle Tuesday night, as directed by me, the brigade was moved ion early the next morning, and McCown advanced with his gainst the enemy, about 600 yards distant, with McNair on the Ector and with Rains' brigade on the left. The division of ernal Cleburne was about 500 yards in rear of McCown, as a e. The two divisions were posted on the left of Lieutenant- Polk's command. The troops advanced with animation and me hotly engaged. The enemy were broken and driven cedar brake after a rapid and successful charge by McCown's, in which Brigadier-General [August] Willich and many pris- e taken.

l instance of courage was shown by Col. J. C. Burks, of the Texas. This brave officer, though mortally wounded, still led ed on his regiment until he fell exhausted at its head.

r instance was shown by Sergt. A. Sims, flag-bearer of the as, who, seeing a Federal flag-bearer endeavoring to rally his sprang forward, seized the standard, and in the struggle both down, waving their flags with their last breath. The Federal aptured.

dered McCown and Cleburne, as they crushed the line of the swing round by a continued change of direction to the right, s left as a pivot, while Wharton was to make a diversion on their rear. This was done by Cleburne, but was not so promptly y McCown, on account of the position of the enemy in his front. ontinued westwardly, fighting toward Overall's Creek, far to hile Cleburne, executing the maneuver, changed his direction ardly toward the Wilkinson turnpike, which placed him on of McCown and filled the interval between McCown and Polk. ow single and without support, engaged and drove the enemy carnage through the fields and cedar brakes which lie between and Wilkinson roads. Before this gap in the line was filled e, McCown's right flank was exposed. McNair halted his brie Liddell advanced gallantly, filling the interval, covered Mc- roctected right, and engaged a superior force of the enemy posted il fence. These two brigades charged the enemy with impet- k their battery, and pursued their broken and fleeing regiments or and Rains could be brought into action.

General McNair left a sick bed to enter the battle, and after conduct- ing his brigade with gallantry, becoming exhausted, was ordered to re- tire from the field. The command then devolved upon Colonel [R. W.] Harper.

By this time Liddell, who was upon the left of Johnson's brigade, had become separated from Cleburne's division by following the movement of McCown. The command was near the Wilkinson turnpike, at a point where the enemy had established a hospital. They had driven them nearly 2 miles. The men were greatly fatigued and their ammunition exhausted. As soon as this was replenished, I ordered them again to advance. Rains' brigade being fresh, was brought forward to the right to attack a battery, while Ector's, McNair's, and Liddell's brigades moved forward in the direction of the Nashville road. Ector and Harper, though enfladed by a battery, forced their way through a cedar brake in which the enemy were posted, while Rains advanced upon the battery. Unfortunately, this brave officer and accomplished gentleman fell, shot through the heart, and his brigade recoiled in confusion. Ector and Harper were ordered to fall back under cover, while [J. T.] Humphreys' battery bravely engaged sixteen pieces of the enemy until our infantry were sheltered.

The divisions of McCown and Cleburne in single line had now driven the enemy, with great slaughter, for several miles through the cedar brakes toward the Nashville turnpike. Cleburne (originally formed with Brigadier-General Polk's brigade on the right, Johnson's in the center, and Liddell's on the left, with Wood's in reserve) had engaged the enemy shortly after McCown commenced the attack. Having changed direction toward the northeast, he encountered their first line, posted behind fences and in dense thickets, a little north of the Triune road. In the open ground beyond were other lines and batteries. Limestone rocks in the thickets furnished the enemy admirable natural defenses. The division dashed forward, and, after a bloody struggle of half an hour, hurled the first line back upon the second, which, in turn, was broken, and the mingled lines were driven in disorder toward the Wilkinson turnpike. Wood's brigade dispersed the One hundred and first Ohio and the brigade composed of the **Thirty-eighth Illinois**, the Twenty-first, Eighty-first, and Fifteenth Wisconsin. The Seventeenth Tennessee captured a Michigan battery, while the Second Arkansas [Mounted Rifles*] again routed the Twenty-second Indiana, capturing its colonel. This regiment is the same that the Second Arkansas had routed at Perryville, and which, during the campaign of last year, had behaved with such barbarity to the people of Arkansas. It was in this conflict that Colonel [A. S.] Marks, of the Seventeenth Tennessee Regiment, was severely wounded while gallantly leading and encouraging his men. It was also in this conflict that Liddell's and Johnson's brigades suffered their greatest loss. The enemy several times attempted to make a stand, but were each time forced back. Our troops were vigorously pressing forward, when a third line, strongly supported by artillery, stood revealed on the south side of the turnpike. The cannonade was fierce, but could not check our advance. After a stubborn combat the enemy were broken, and fled to the cedar brakes between the Nashville and Wilkinson turn- pikes.

Cleburne was now in advance of Cheatham and Withers, and as he crossed the open grounds near the turnpike he was enfladed by a bat- tery posted on an eminence directly on his right flank. Captain [T. R.] Hotchkiss, acting chief of artillery of Cleburne's division, placed [J. H.]

* Dismounted.

Calvert's and [Put.] Darden's batteries in position near the Wilkinson turnpike, and boldly engaged some heavy rifled batteries of the enemy. This officer nobly discharged his duty, and was twice wounded. The First Arkansas and the Fifth Confederate afterward charged the batteries, and captured four of the guns. Several colors, a large number of prisoners, medical stores, hospitals, ammunition trains, and caissons, were captured in this conflict. The battle at this point was bloody. Here General [Joshua W.] Sill, of the Federal Army, was slain.

Cleburne had now driven back all the forces of the enemy beyond the Wilkinson road, when another line was displayed in the cover of the cedar woods between the Wilkinson and Nashville turnpikes. Wood, Polk, and Johnson charged this line, receiving a heavy fire. Here Lieutenant-Colonel [Don] McGrégor, of the First Arkansas, and Major [J. T.] McReynolds, of the Thirty-seventh Tennessee, two brave officers, fell, mortally wounded. Brigadier-General Liddell attacked the enemy near the left of Brigadier-General Johnson, whom he had rejoined, and, after an obstinate conflict, threw them into confusion. Here Col. Samuel [G.] Smith, of the Sixth and Seventh Arkansas, and Colonel [John H.] Kelly, of the Eighth Arkansas, both gallant officers, were wounded; and here Lieutenant-Colonel [John E.] Murray, of the Fifth Arkansas, courageously bore the colors of his regiment to the front, while Private J. K. Leslie, of the same regiment, captured the colors of the enemy with his own hands. A portion of Cleburne's division was repulsed, but, after a bloody combat, the enemy were finally dislodged. On our right their lines remained unbroken. With our inferior numbers no further advance could be hazarded until all my forces were collected. Wood, having fallen back for ammunition, was detained to protect the ordnance train. The remaining brigades occupied the cedar brakes and fields near the Nashville road. The command of Cleburne was now reformed, and about 3 o'clock he essayed again to rout a fresh line of the enemy near the Nashville turnpike. The enemy were again broken with heavy loss. Johnson's brigade was conspicuous in the conflict, in which the brigade of Preston Smith also shared. It was now past 3 o'clock. In moving through the open grounds to drive the enemy from the last positions they held near the railroad, a fierce and destructive enfilading fire of artillery was poured upon the right of Cleburne's division from batteries massed near the railroad embankments. At this critical moment the enemy brought up a fresh line to oppose our wearied troops. Our ammunition was exhausted. Smith's brigade recoiled in confusion. Johnson and Polk followed, and the division was repulsed. It was rallied and reformed in the edge of the cedar woods, about 400 yards in rear of the most advanced position we had won. Brigadier-General Polk in this conflict suffered very severely, but, while we sustained, we inflicted great loss.

When I withdrew from the extreme right, Tuesday evening, Major-General Breckinridge's division was left in its original position on the Lebanon road. Brigadier-General Jackson having reported to me with his brigade, it was posted on the east side of the Lebanon road, to the right of Adams' brigade. These five brigades, under Major-General Breckinridge, remained in position from Sunday to Wednesday without any material event, except a skirmish for an artillery position, already mentioned.

About 11 o'clock Wednesday the brigades of Adams and Jackson were, in obedience to orders of the commanding general, sent across the river to the assistance of Lieutenant-General Polk, who was reported to be hard pressed. Crossing the ford about midday, they were formed near the intersection of the Nashville Railroad and turnpike, with their right stretching to the river, and were moved down the Nash-

ville turnpike and railroad against the center of the enemy, passing in the direction of the burnt brick building known as the Cowan house. The brigade of Jackson passed by those of Chalmers and Donelson in the direction of the Cowan house, while Adams', extending toward the river, attacked the enemy between 1 and 2 o'clock. A desperate struggle for a passage down the Nashville road ensued just before Cleburne became engaged against their right, 2 miles farther on. The force was unequal to the task. It recoiled after a loss of one-third of the command.

A short time after, Preston and Palmer were ordered to cross the ford, to continue the same movement, and Hanson's brigade alone remained on the east side of Stone's River. They reached the ground just after Jackson and Adams were repulsed, General Adams having been wounded while gallantly conducting his brigade. They were quickly formed under the immediate command of Major-General Breckinridge, and moved across the plain in fine order under the fire of the enemy's artillery.

Many men and officers were killed along the line, the principal loss falling upon Preston's brigade. The Twentieth Tennessee, of Preston's brigade, vainly endeavored near the river to carry a battery, and, after a heavy loss, including their gallant commander, Colonel [T. B.] Smith, who was severely wounded, was compelled to fall back under cover. Palmer, being farther on the left, suffered but little. The remaining regiments of Preston's brigade encountered great difficulty in passing the fences and pickets at the Cowan house, and, being exposed to an enfilading fire of infantry and artillery at short range, were thrown into some confusion. They were soon rallied, and, rushing forward with cheers across the intervening space, entered the cedar brakes in front.

At 4 o'clock our line was almost parallel with the Nashville turnpike for about 2 miles, stretching from the point of woods near the Cowan house toward Overall's Creek. Preston occupied the extreme right of my line, and the divisions of Cleburne and McCown extended northwest, almost parallel with the railroad. Liddell's brigade formed the extreme left. The enemy occupied the ground northwest of the railroad, lying between it and Stone's River, toward Nashville. Here they massed a vast strength of artillery and infantry. Their right had been completely turned, crushed, and beaten back for more than 3 miles. Great confusion prevailed, but their strength was still such that we could not undertake to force the position without unwise hazard. We had lost nearly a third of the commands engaged. If, at the moment when the enemy were driven from the thick woods north of the Wilkinson turnpike, a fresh division could have replaced Cleburne's exhausted troops and followed up the victory, the rout of Rosecrans' army would have been complete. The interval required to collect and reform our lines, now shattered by four successive conflicts, was occupied by the enemy in planting heavy batteries and massing fresh columns of infantry to oppose our further advance. I sent for re-enforcements. The commanding general replied he had none to give me. Hanson's brigade alone remained fresh and unfought. The enemy lay beyond the range of our guns, securely sheltered behind the strong defense of the railroad embankment, with wide, open fields intervening, which were swept by their superior artillery. It would have been folly, not valor, to assail them in this position. I gave the order to hold the wood, 400 yards in rear of the advanced position we had won, and to bivouac for the night.

During the day the men and officers of my command had displayed the most splendid courage. Twenty-three pieces of cannon and more than 4,000 prisoners, with a corresponding number of small-arms, rewarded their valor. With 12,000 men of all arms, we had driven back

HDQRS. HARDEE'S CORPS, ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
Tullahoma, Tenn., January 17, 1863.

780 ONEL: KY, MID. AND E. TENN., N. ALA., AND SW. VA. (CHAP. XXXII)
"present for duty" in this army corps on the morning of the 31st of
December, *Tabular statement of killed, wounded, and missing, &c.*—Continued.

Breckinridge's division:		Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.
Brown's [Palmer's] brigade	Commander	1,446	761	107
Adams' brigade	Commander	1,534	262	.....
Hanson's brigade	Commander	1,893	131	113
Preston's brigade	Commander	1,951	113	264
6,824				
Cleburne's Division.		Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.
Wood's brigade	Brigadier-General Wood	1,150	52	334
Johnson's brigade	Brigadier-General Johnson	61	488	57
Liddell's brigade	Brigadier-General Liddell	86	503	18
Polk's brigade	Brigadier-General Polk	130	43	298
Cleburne's staff		2	.....	19
1,922				
Total Cleburne's division	Major-General Cleburne	229	1,627	207
2,066				
McCown's Division (unattached).		Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.
Ector's brigade	Brigadier-General Ector	29	275	39
Rains' brigade	Brigadier-General Rains	21	154	15
McNair's brigade	Brigadier-General McNair	42	330	52
McCown's escort		2	2	1
962				
Total McCown's division	Major-General McCown	94	761	107
Jackson's brigade (unattached)	Brig. Gen. J. K. Jackson	41	262	.....
Wharton's brigade of cavalry	Brigadier-General Wharton	20	131	113
113				
Grand total Hardee's corps	Lieutenant-General Hardee	650	4,207	803

RECAPITULATION.

780	Commanded.	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.	Total.
Breckinridge's division	266	1,426	376	2,068	
Cleburne's division	229	1,627	207	2,066	
McCown's division	94	761	107	962	
Jackson's brigade	41	262	.....	303	
Wharton's brigade	20	131	113	264	
6,503					
Cleburne's Division.		Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.	Total.
Wood's brigade	Brigadier-General Wood	1,150	52	334	1,536
Johnson's brigade	Brigadier-General Johnson	61	488	57	606
Liddell's brigade	Brigadier-General Liddell	86	503	18	607
Polk's brigade	Brigadier-General Polk	130	43	298	471
Cleburne's staff		2	.....	19	21
3,251					
Total Cleburne's division	Major-General Cleburne	229	1,627	207	2,063
2,063					
McCown's Division (unattached).		Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.	Total.
Ector's brigade	Brigadier-General Ector	29	275	39	343
Rains' brigade	Brigadier-General Rains	21	154	15	190
McNair's brigade	Brigadier-General McNair	42	330	52	424
McCown's escort		2	2	1	5
962					
Total McCown's division	Major-General McCown	94	761	107	962
Jackson's brigade (unattached)	Brig. Gen. J. K. Jackson	41	262	.....	303
Wharton's brigade of cavalry	Brigadier-General Wharton	20	131	113	364
364					
Grand total Hardee's corps	Lieutenant-General Hardee	650	4,207	803	5,660

HDQRS. HARDEE'S CORPS, ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
Tullahoma, Tenn., January 17, 1863.

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit the following report of the
"present for duty" in this army corps on the morning of the 31st of
December, 1862:

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RECAPITULATION.

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364					
Grand total Hardee's corps	Lieutenant-General Hardee	650	4,207	803	5,660

Discrepancies in the relative strength of the brigades of Breckin-
ridge's division in the present report, as compared with previous reports,

Report of Maj. Gen. John C. Breckinridge, C. S. Army, commanding First
Division, with appendix by General Bragg.

HEADQUARTERS BRECKINRIDGE'S DIVISION,
January —, 1863.

CHAP. XXXII.] THE STONE'S RIVER CAMPAIGN.
I have the honor to report the operations of this division, of Lieuten-
ant-General Hardee's corps, in the recent battles of Stone's River, in
front of Murfreesborough.

The character and course of Stone's River, and the nature of the ground
in front of the town, are well known, and as the report of the general
commanding will, no doubt, be accompanied by a sketch, it is not neces-
sary to describe them here.

On the morning of Sunday, December 28, the brigades moved from
their encampments and took up line of battle about 1½ miles from Mur-
freesborough in the following order: Adams' brigade on the right, with
its right resting on the Lebanon road, and its left extending toward the
ford over Stone's River, a short distance below the destroyed bridge on
the Nashville turnpike; Preston on the left of Adams; Palmer on the
left of Preston, and Hanson forming the left of the line, with his left
resting on the right bank of the river near the ford. The right of Major-
General Withers, of Lieutenant-General Polk's corps, rested near the
left bank of the river and slightly in advance of Hanson's left.

HDQRS. HARDEE'S CORPS, ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
Tullahoma, Tenn., April 20, 1863.

COLONEL: In obedience to instructions from headquarters of the
army, I have the honor to forward herewith the names of officers who
fell at the battle of Murfreesborough, conspicuous for their valor, to be
inscribed on the battery of Liddell's brigade, and on one of the reserve
batteries:

Liddell's battery.—Lieut. Col. Don McGregor, First Arkansas; Capt.
James T. Armstrong, Company E, Sixth Arkansas; First Lieut. H. C.
Collier, Company H, Second Arkansas, and First Lieut. H. J. McCurdy,
Eighth Arkansas.

Reserve Battery.—Maj. Henry C. Ewin, Forty-fourth Tennessee Regi-
ment; Maj. James T. McReynolds, Thirty-seventh Tennessee Regi-
ment; Capt. E. Eldridge Wright, Wright's battery, and Capt. Edwin
Allen, Company C, Twenty-sixth Tennessee Regiment.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. J. HARDEE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of Tennessee.

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, No. 225a.

Report of Maj. Gen. John C. Breckinridge, C. S. Army, commanding First
Division, with appendix by General Bragg.

HEADQUARTERS BRECKINRIDGE'S DIVISION,
January —, 1863.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report the operations of this division, of Lieuten-
ant-General Hardee's corps, in the recent battles of Stone's River, in
front of Murfreesborough.

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ford over Stone's River, a short distance below the destroyed bridge on
the Nashville turnpike; Preston on the left of Adams; Palmer on the
left of Preston, and Hanson forming the left of the line, with his left
resting on the right bank of the river near the ford. The right of Major-
General Withers, of Lieutenant-General Polk's corps, rested near the
left bank of the river and slightly in advance of Hanson's left.

and utterly routed McCook's corps, ascertained by his captured returns to have been 18,000 strong, and several brigades and divisions which it is known were sent to his support.

For 3 miles in our rear, amid the thick cedars and the open fields, where the Federal lines had been originally formed, their dead and their dying, their hospitals, and the wreck of that portion of their army marked our victorious advance. Our bivouac fires were lighted at night within 500 yards of the railroad embankment, behind which their disordered battalions sought shelter.

Wednesday night was clear and cold. The armies maintained their relative positions. Some picket skirmishing occurred during the night. No action of importance nor material change of position occurred until about 2 o'clock in the afternoon of Friday, January 2. The commanding general, anxious to secure a position on the east bank of the river, from which he could enfilade the lines of the enemy, ordered Major-General Breckinridge, with his entire division, to seize a hill about 1,600 yards in front of the position occupied by Hanson's brigade. At 4 o'clock the division moved forward. It swept over the crest of the hill, routing a division of the enemy, who fled in disorder across the stream, after leaving many killed, wounded, and prisoners. Our men pursued them with great ardor. A division reported to be that of General [J. S.] Negley, and a brigade under General Porter [Palmer], held the opposite side of the river. This fresh force poured a withering fire from an advantageous position upon our men. Breckinridge's division, after a bloody struggle not exceeding forty minutes, in which at least 1,200 men were killed and wounded, was repulsed. Many brave men and able officers fell in the attack. Among the latter Brigadier-General [R. W.] Hanson, a spirited and intrepid officer, was mortally wounded early in the action. As this movement was made without my knowledge, and under the immediate supervision of Major-General Breckinridge, I refer to his report for details.

Friday night, the commanding general, apprehending an attack on our right, east of Stone's River, ordered me to withdraw Cleburne's and McCown's divisions from the left, and to place them in their original positions—the former in rear of Breckinridge's line, the latter in reserve. These divisions did not get into position until late that night. Cold and drenching rain set in and continued throughout the succeeding day. The enemy manifested no disposition to attack, but our troops, being worn down by the hardships of their winter bivouacs and the exhaustion of battle, and the commanding general having received information that the enemy were being largely re-enforced, he determined to retire.

In obedience to his orders, on the morning of January 4, I withdrew my command by the Manchester road to Tullahoma, in good order and without molestation.

It is worthy of remark that at Murfreesborough, whenever the fight was confined principally to musketry, and the enemy had no advantage in artillery, we were successful. It was only when they had massed heavy batteries, under cover of the railroad embankments, that we were repulsed. In every form of contest in which mechanical instruments, requiring skill and heavy machinery to make them, can be used, the Federals are our superiors. In every form of contest in which manly courage, patient endurance, and brave impulse are the qualities and conditions necessary to success, we have invariably been successful. Long-range cannon and improved projectiles can be made only by great mechanical skill, heavy machinery, and abundant resources. The enemy is, therefore, superior in artillery. Infantry constitutes the great arm of the service, and its appointments and equipments are simple. The

Federal infantry, unsupported by artillery, has not in a single instance fought successfully with ours when the odds were less than three to two.

I herewith inclose a tabular statement (A), which exhibits the losses sustained by the divisions of McCown, Breckinridge, and Cleburne, and the brigades of Jackson and Wharton, amounting to 5,663 in killed, wounded, and missing.

To the officers and men of my command I return my heartfelt thanks for the ability and striking courage displayed by them at Murfreesborough. The field required that much should be confided to the commanders of divisions, brigades, and regiments, and it is to me a grateful duty to acknowledge how well these officers merited my confidence. The men illustrated the day by a discipline, courage, and devotion never surpassed. In the reports of my subordinate commanders will be found many instances of individual heroism which the limits of this report will not permit me to record.

My thanks are due to the members of my staff, namely: Maj. T. B. Roy, chief of staff; Capt. D. H. Poole, assistant adjutant-general; Capt. D. G. White, acting assistant adjutant-general; Maj. W. D. Pickett, assistant inspector-general; Capt. S. L. Black, assistant inspector-general; Lieut. T. W. Hunt, assistant inspector-general; Lieut. W. W. Wilkins, aide-de-camp; Maj. L. Hoxton, chief of artillery; Maj. J. M. Kennard, chief of ordnance; Surg. A. L. Breysacher, medical inspector; Maj. C. W. Gassett, chief quartermaster; Maj. W. E. Moore, chief of subsistence, and to General W. C. Whitthorne, adjutant-general of the State of Tennessee, and Capt. [Maj.] Thomas Claiborne, C. S. Army, who volunteered their services.

My thanks are also especially due to Capt. S. W. Presstman and J. W. Green, of the engineer corps, for active and efficient service, and to Surg. D. W. Yandell, my medical director, to whose good management I am indebted for having both my own and the Federal wounded in Wednesday's fight rapidly removed from the field and cared for before midnight.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

Lieut. Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

A.

Tabular statement of killed, wounded, and missing, to accompany Lieutenant-General Hardee's report of the battle of Murfreesborough.

Command.	Commander.	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.
HARDEE'S CORPS.				
<i>Breckinridge's Division.</i>				
Palmer's brigade*	Colonel Palmer	49	324	52
Preston's brigade	Brigadier-General Preston	58	384	97
Adams' brigade†	Brigadier-General Adams	112	445	146
Hanson's brigade	Brigadier-General Hanson	47	273	81
Total Breckinridge's division	Major-General Breckinridge	266	1,426	376

* Brigadier-General Pillow assigned to command previous to action, January 2.

† Colonel Gibson in command after General Adams was wounded.

Tabular statement of killed, wounded, and missing, &c.—Continued.

Command.	Commander.	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.
<i>Cleburne's Division.</i>				
Wood's brigade	Brigadier-General Wood	52	336	113
Johnson's brigade	Brigadier-General Johnson	61	488	57
Liddell's brigade	Brigadier-General Liddell	86	503	18
Polk's brigade	Brigadier-General Polk	30	298	19
Cleburne's staff .....	.....	.....	2	.....
Total Cleburne's division	Major-General Cleburne	229	1,627	207
<i>McCown's Division (unattached).</i>				
Ector's brigade	Brigadier-General Ector	29	275	39
Rains' brigade	Brigadier-General Rains	21	154	15
McNair's brigade	Brigadier-General McNair	42	330	52
McCown's escort .....	.....	2	2	1
Total McCown's division	Major-General McCown	94	761	107
Jackson's brigade (unattached)	Brig. Gen. J. K. Jackson	41	262	.....
Wharton's brigade of cavalry	Brigadier-General Wharton	20	131	113
Grand total Hardee's corps	Lieutenant-General Hardee	650	4,207	803

RECAPITULATION.

Command.	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.	Total.
Breckinridge's division	266	1,426	376	2,068
Cleburne's division	229	1,627	207	2,066
McCown's division	94	761	107	962
Jackson's brigade	41	262	.....	303
Wharton's brigade	20	131	113	264
Grand total	650	4,207	803	5,663

[Addenda.]

HDQRS. HARDEE'S CORPS, ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
Tullahoma, Tenn., January 17, 1863.

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit the following report of the "present for duty" in this army corps on the morning of the 31st of December, 1862:

<i>Breckinridge's division:</i>	
Brown's [Palmer's] brigade	1,446
Adams' brigade	1,534
Hanson's brigade	1,893
Preston's brigade	1,951
	6,824
<i>Cleburne's division:</i>	
Wood's brigade	1,150
Johnson's brigade	1,922
Liddell's brigade	1,709
Polk's brigade	1,343
	6,124
Total	12,948

Discrepancies in the relative strength of the brigades of Breckinridge's division in the present report, as compared with previous reports,

are explained by the fact that the reorganization of that division was perfected by several transfers of regiments only on the day previous to the battle of Murfreesborough.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. HARDEE'S CORPS, ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
Tullahoma, April 20, 1863.

COLONEL: In obedience to instructions from headquarters of the army, I have the honor to forward herewith the names of officers who fell at the battle of Murfreesborough, conspicuous for their valor, to be inscribed on the battery of Liddell's brigade, and on one of the reserve batteries:

Liddell's battery.—Lieut. Col. Don. McGregor, First Arkansas; Capt. James T. Armstrong, Company E, Sixth Arkansas; First Lieut. H. C. Collier, Company H, Second Arkansas, and First Lieut. H. J. McCurdy, Eighth Arkansas.

Reserve Battery.—Maj. Henry C. Ewin, Forty-fourth Tennessee Regiment; Maj. James T. McReynolds, Thirty-seventh Tennessee Regiment; Capt. E. Eldridge Wright, Wright's battery, and Capt. Edwin Allen, Company C, Twenty-sixth Tennessee Regiment.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of Tennessee.

No. 225.

Report of Maj. Gen. John C. Breckinridge, C. S. Army, commanding First Division, with appendix by General Bragg.

HEADQUARTERS BRECKINRIDGE'S DIVISION,
January —, 1863.

I have the honor to report the operations of this division, of Lieutenant-General Hardee's corps, in the recent battles of Stone's River, in front of Murfreesborough.

The character and course of Stone's River, and the nature of the ground in front of the town, are well known, and as the report of the general commanding will, no doubt, be accompanied by a sketch, it is not necessary to describe them here.

On the morning of Sunday, December 28, the brigades moved from their encampments and took up line of battle about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Murfreesborough in the following order: Adams' brigade on the right, with its right resting on the Lebanon road, and its left extending toward the ford over Stone's River, a short distance below the destroyed bridge on the Nashville turnpike; Preston on the left of Adams; Palmer on the left of Preston, and Hanson forming the left of the line, with his left resting on the right bank of the river near the ford. The right of Major-General Withers, of Lieutenant-General Polk's corps, rested near the left bank of the river and slightly in advance of Hanson's left.

TULLAHOMA, TENN., *January 23, 1863.*

DEAR SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of arms, ammunition, and equipments captured at battle of Murfreesborough, viz: t. I removed seven pieces of artillery from the field to Murfreesborough; caliber unknown.

l. I captured about 300 rounds of fixed ammunition for 12-pounder howitzer, about 100 rounds of which I used in the fight.

l. I captured about 500 friction-primers, a portion of which I used in the fight.

h. The gunners captured gauges, rammers, priming-wires, &c., the number of which I cannot state, as some were lost.

h. I captured 8 battery horses and some few pieces of harness.

One pole was shot out of one of my howitzers. I sent it to Murfreesborough and replaced it with a piece we captured from a Michigan battery. About 9 horses killed and disabled.

Respectfully submitted.

PUT. DARDEN,
Captain, Commanding Battery.

Capt. R. B. SNOWDEN.

—
No. 273.

Reports of Brig. Gen. S. A. M. Wood, C. S. Army, commanding Fourth Brigade, including skirmish on the Nolensville road, December 27.

HEADQUARTERS, WOOD'S BRIGADE, CLEBURNE'S DIVISION,
HARDEE'S CORPS, ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
Tullahoma, Tenn., January 11, 1863.

SIR: In obedience to orders from division headquarters, I submit the following report of the part taken by my brigade in the recent battles at Murfreesborough, Tenn.:

On the morning of December 27 last, Lieutenant-General Hardee, who was present in person at our advanced post at Triune, ordered me, in conjunction with Brigadier-General [John A.] Wharton, whose command was within 2 miles of that place, to skirmish with the advancing columns of the enemy.

My brigade consisted of two companies of sharpshooters, the Sixteenth Alabama, the Thirty-third Alabama, and the Forty-fifth Mississippi regiments; in all, about 950 men and officers.

The Forty-fifth Mississippi was posted at daylight about 1½ miles from Triune, on the Nolensville pike; four companies deployed as skirmishers on the right of the road, three supporting a section of Darden's battery on the left, and one deployed as skirmishers on the left flank.

The enemy appeared at 9 a. m.; our battery opened on him. They attempted three times to place a battery in position on a hill 500 yards from us, but was driven away by our fire. His cavalry now appeared in large numbers on both our right and left flanks, Brigadier-General Wharton, with his command, holding him in check. It was necessary to retire our guns, which I did, and caused our skirmishers to assemble and fall back under the protection of our cavalry to our second line, consisting of the Sixteenth Alabama, deployed as skirmishers on the left of the pike in rear of Triune, the skirmishers, thrown forward on the left behind a stone wall, near the Franklin Church. Darden's battery and Captain White's battery, of two pieces, of Brigadier-General Wharton's command, were massed near the turnpike. The enemy soon possessed themselves of the heights near Triune.

In the mean time I had detailed 20 men to report to Capt. J. W. Green, of the engineers, of Lieutenant-General Hardee's staff, who had offered his services to me, and he had totally demolished the bridge across the stream just beyond Triune.

I am deeply indebted to Captain Green for services rendered during this day, in every way evincing a zeal and knowledge, as well as courage, worthy of the highest commendation, bringing his men away from the bridge only when the enemy's shells were falling in their midst, the work having been accomplished.

The enemy's batteries, placed on the hill out of range of our pieces, now opened fire upon us. I ordered the guns behind the crest of the ridge. At this time large masses of cavalry appeared moving toward our left. They were fired upon by the six pieces which were rapidly advanced to the top of the hill. Many saddles were emptied and the whole thrown into confusion.

At this time a heavy storm of hail and rain beat in our faces, concealing the movements of the enemy. It had not abated before he was found to be advancing with a line of infantry extending a mile in length. Our skirmishers fired quickly upon the line, but seeing the overwhelming forces against us, General Wharton and myself concluded at once to retire. The artillery was ordered off. One piece of Darden's had been sent to the left and was 400 yards from the pike. The enemy made great exertions to capture it, but the coolness and courage of Captain Darden; the steadiness of our skirmishers on assembling and firing on the enemy; the gallant conduct of Captain [B. F.] White, jr., in placing a piece of his battery in position on the pike, and firing so rapidly on the advancing lines as to check them (but, above all, the disposition of cavalry made by Brigadier-General Wharton), gave time to bring it off in safety. In consequence of the loss of the bridge, the enemy could bring no artillery to bear on us. One piece of Darden's was now placed on the pike, and, firing upon the enemy, permitted our whole column to retire in good order, covered by the cavalry.

We marched until dark and bivouacked 3 miles from the Eaglesville pike, where I received an order to move at dawn to Murfreesborough, which I did.

In this affair I lost but 6 men; as they were left behind, I cannot say whether killed or wounded. The enemy report their loss to citizens of Triune (and we also have it from prisoners captured at Murfreesborough) at 65.

It is now known that [General A. McD.] McCook's corps, of three divisions, was assailing us on that day.

I am, general, with the greatest respect, your obedient servant,
S. A. M. WOOD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. IRVING A. BUCK,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HEADQUARTERS, WOOD'S BRIGADE, CLEBURNE'S DIVISION,
HARDEE'S CORPS, ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
Tullahoma, Tenn., January 11, 1863.

SIR: In obedience to orders from division headquarters, I submit the following report of the part taken by my brigade in the recent battles before Murfreesborough:

Having arrived at Murfreesborough on Sunday night, the 28th instant

[ultimo], on Monday morning took my place in line of General Cleburne's division, being the left center brigade, Brigadier-General Liddell to my left, and Brigadier-Generals Johnson and Polk on my right. Remained in this position until Tuesday evening, when I received an order to follow Brigadier-General Johnson's brigade, which I did, passing through Murfreesborough, and across Stone's River to the left of our lines. I was placed in position about 300 yards in rear of Brigadier-General Polk's brigade. The Third Confederate Regiment (that had been detached) joined me. I had now about 1,100 men for duty. My line was as follows: Third Confederate Regiment, Thirty-third Alabama, Forty-fifth Mississippi, Sixteenth Alabama, and sharpshooters.

We were in line at 5 o'clock Wednesday morning. Near daylight I received an order to move forward and support Brigadier-General Polk. When we had advanced half a mile, firing commenced in front; a few shells exploded over my lines. After advancing 400 yards farther, I received an order from Lieutenant-General Hardee, by Colonel Black, to move by the right flank, and fill up any vacancy between Brigadier-General Polk's right and the left of Major-General Cheatham's command. I marched by the right flank until I came to the Ninth Texas Regiment, which I was told belonged to General Cheatham's division. I then marched to the front against the enemy. Skirmishers were thrown out, who quickly returned before a heavy fire. My brigade then advanced to a cedar glade filled with rocky crevices, in which the One hundred and first Ohio Regiment lay concealed, being about 40 yards in advance of a brigade consisting of the **Thirty-eighth** and **Twenty-first Illinois**, and **Eighty-first [Indiana]**, and **Fifteenth Wisconsin**. Firing continued for several minutes. Being unable to see the foe, I ordered firing to cease. The enemy, believing we were going to retire, sprung up, when a volley was poured into them, at once routing the brigade, which fled, leaving the colonel of the One hundred and first Ohio Regiment and the lieutenant-colonel and major dead, and a large number of other field and company officers, on the field. Pursuit was made, driving the enemy half a mile through the thick cedars and open woods. The lines of my brigade became broken in the eagerness of the pursuit, the men of each regiment mixing together. As the enemy retired through a piece of woods extending forward between two fields, a battery directly in front of us was firing on us.

At this point the right of my brigade captured a hospital of the enemy across the Nolensville pike, containing many wounded officers and men. It was held until orders were given to retire. The sharpshooters and Sixteenth Alabama had possession of the house, and were three-quarters of a mile in advance of any part of our lines at this hour, save the left of my brigade and General Polk's brigade. I halted them, put them in line, and ordered, in conjunction with Brigadier-General Polk, a charge on a battery. The battery fled, however, before our men. We captured one caisson. We then pressed on, though now the lines of our men, which should have been on my right, seemed to have halted. We passed across the field and through a wood and across the Nolensville pike, driving the enemy. Here we entered another field and became engaged with a heavy force in our front, while a battery of several guns was enfilading our entire line. The ammunition of several regiments became exhausted, and we returned to the wood for shelter, while we refilled our boxes.

At this place Brigadier-General Johnson's brigade came up, and he formed it and marched off to our right. We soon followed, and, by direction of Major-General Cleburne, took position on the left of Brigadier-General Polk's brigade. The line now marched against the enemy

for the third time. He was again posted in a dense cedar brake. From this position our men drove him. At this point the slaughter seemed to be greater than any other. We drove the enemy out of the woods and across a field, under cover of a large number of guns which he had collected at this point. The fire from his artillery became very annoying, and the men took shelter in the timber. By direction of Major-General Cleburne, I sent forward about 100 sharpshooters to pick off his horses and cannoneers, but they could not cover themselves from the fire of his whole line of infantry, and were forced back to the edge of the field.

About this time Colonel [A. J.] Vaughan, [jr.,] came up with his brigade, and I directed it in position on my left. It had a sharp contest with the enemy, driving him back.

My men, as reported by their colonels, having expended their ammunition, I formed them in rear of the cedar brake and collected parts of several regiments, which had become separated from their commands, to wit, about 100 men of the Forty-fifth Alabama, under Lieutenant-Colonel [J. G.] Gilchrist; about 70 of the First Louisiana Infantry, under a captain; a part of a Mississippi regiment of another corps, all of which I conducted to the wood near our ammunition wagons.

At this point I received notice from a staff officer that our left was certainly threatened by the enemy's cavalry and infantry, which I immediately communicated to Lieutenant-General Hardee, who ordered me to take a position and protect our ordnance trains. I ordered the trains to move between my line and Murfreesborough, and threw out a strong picket about 500 yards in advance, facing our left flank, and bivouacked for the night.

Early the next morning I retook my position in line of battle immediately in rear of the cedar brake, where our last fight with the enemy occurred, Brigadier-General Liddell on my left and Brigadier-General Johnson on my right. We remained in line of battle—our skirmishers fighting frequently in front and the enemy shelling the woods at sundown—during the day.

About 2 o'clock I was ordered by Major-General Cleburne to move my brigade forward to a white house, which it had been ascertained the enemy had used as a hospital, to develop his lines and ascertain his force. The brigade moved promptly across a corn-field about half a mile. As soon as we had shown ourselves in the field, a terrific fire of shell, grape, shot, and minie balls fell around us. The brigade pressed on, firing. As soon as it reached a depression in the ground, near the hospital, it was ordered to halt and lie down. The order was obeyed; but in a few moments a part of the Forty-fifth Mississippi, which was on the right, advanced beyond the general line to some out-houses—perhaps for protection. The enemy's whole line opened upon us, and a brigade of four large regiments began to move around our left flank. Our line was now vertical to the general line of our forces and three-quarters of a mile in advance.

Riding to the right to acquaint Major-General Cleburne of these facts, I met Captain White, of Lieutenant-General Hardee's staff, who informed me that the general desired that no general action should be brought on. I immediately ordered the brigade to fall back, passing over the crest of a hill to the rear. This movement was executed in good order, though the command suffered severely from the fire of the enemy, and about 60 men refusing to come back, were left in the hands of the enemy. The brigade was now permitted by the major-general, in consequence of its recent fatiguing duties, to retire to Stone's River, cook rations, and rest for the night.

the morning of January 2, by order of Major-General Cleburne, a brigade was placed in line of battle on the extreme left of our lines, supporting Brigadier-General Liddell, in which position it awaited the approach of the enemy, or orders, during the day. The enemy shelled the woods in which we were frequently the day, and at night pushed forward a regiment at different points on our skirmishers, who were promptly driven back.

Before daylight, the brigade moved with the division to the right, occupying nearly its original position in the line of battle, it remained until 11 o'clock that night, when, by order, it retired. We have to remark that in this battle the brigade, with some few exceptions, which are noted in the reports of my colonels, behaved with gallantry. The men went into action with a spirit and determination never before so clearly shown, and endured all the fatigues without murmur.

My officers commanding I beg leave to call attention. Col. William Wood, of the Sixteenth Alabama, was always in the lead. Located on the right, and subjected by our position to a cross-fire—from the fact that the lines to our right were always behind us—he carried his regiment forward, driving the enemy before him. Colonel [Samuel] Adams, Thirty third Alabama, and Lieutenant-Colonel [R.] Charlton, of the Forty-fifth Mississippi; also Major [E. F.] Nunn, of that regiment, Major [J. F.] Cameron, of the Third Confederate Regiment, are deserving of particular notice.

Captain [A. T.] Hawkins, of the sharpshooters, distinguished himself in this action. I call attention to the remark of Major Cameron in regard to Adjut. Frank Foster, jr., of the Forty-fifth Mississippi. My staff I am greatly indebted to. Captain Palmer, assistant adjutant-general, was always in the van, and was surpassed by no one in courage or valor; as also my aide-de-camp, Capt. William Simpson; as also Capt. Joshua Sledge, D. Coleman, and my volunteer aide, Captain Walker, who was wounded. Lieut. J. Percy Walker, my assistant instructor-general, is deserving of especial notice for gallant services rendered on this occasion from first to last.

In conclusion, the brigade commander expresses the opinion that in the battle the 1,100 men he took into action vindicated by their blood the determination of our people to conquer their freedom or die in the struggle—504 having been killed, wounded, or captured in this battle. Of those who are noted as missing were killed or wounded. The brigade and is ready to meet the enemy again.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

S. A. M. WOOD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. IRVING A. BUCK,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 274.

Report of Col. William B. Wood, Sixteenth Alabama Infantry, including a skirmish at Triune, December 27.

—, 1863.

REMARKS: In pursuance of the order to report the movements and operations of this regiment in the battles at Triune and Murfreesborough, on the 27th and 31st ultimo, I beg to submit the following: On the 26th ultimo we were ordered to the front of Triune, to support

General Wharton and repel the advance of the enemy, who was reported to be moving in that direction with a large force. We remained under arms until late in the evening, when we were ordered to return and strike our camps, send the wagons to the rear, and take position on the hill near the Franklin pike.

At 4 o'clock on the 27th we were under arms and moved forward to take position on the hills in front of Triune. We remained in that position, deployed as skirmishers, until 9 o'clock, when we were ordered back to our position in rear of the town. My regiment was deployed as skirmishers just behind the brow of the hill and awaited the approach of the enemy. Captain Darden occupied the hill with his battery. The enemy made an attempt to turn our left flank with cavalry, which was repulsed by the artillery and my skirmishers on the left, the enemy fleeing in confusion. About 1 o'clock a heavy rain commenced and continued for nearly an hour. As soon as it ceased, and we were able to see a few hundred yards to the front, we discovered the enemy advanced nearly up to our lines. We immediately opened fire upon him and held him in check until the artillery was drawn off, when we were ordered to fall back. As we were retreating, I discovered the enemy moving up on our right flank, but we were enabled to gain the turn in the road before they could cut us off. A piece of artillery opened on them from this point and checked their advance. Our line was then formed on the pike and brought off without loss. Our casualties were 2 men slightly wounded.

We reached Murfreesborough Sunday night, and Monday morning were ordered to take position in the line of battle on the right wing near the Lebanon pike. We remained in this position until Tuesday night, when we were ordered across the river and bivouacked for the night on the river bank in an open field.

At daylight on the morning of the 31st, we were in line of battle and moved forward across the field. Before we had advanced 100 yards the enemy opened upon us with shells. Our line was pushed forward across the fields to the woods, where we discovered the enemy in a dense cedar glade, lying down behind the rocks. We commenced firing as soon as the skirmishers fell back, and continued firing for nearly half an hour, neither party yielding any ground. The general gave the order to "charge," and the men, with a yell, made a charge in gallant style, dislodging the enemy from their strong position and killing scores of them as they fled. We continued to push on for more than half a mile, when we came upon another line of the enemy. Again a fierce and stubborn resistance was made. Again the general ordered a charge, which was made with like results, the enemy being driven for more than half a mile until they fell behind a battery planted near a large frame house used as a hospital. Our line was reformed, and, with General Polk's brigade, moved up to charge the battery. As we approached, a few rounds were fired, and the battery was drawn off. We pursued as rapidly as possible, driving the enemy through the woods, across a corn-field, and beyond the Nolensville pike. As we approached the field another battery to our right opened upon us. We charged across this open field more than a quarter of a mile to capture the battery. About the time we reached another house used as a hospital, another battery (planted on the pike) opened a cross-fire upon us, and at the same time a heavy infantry force, supporting the battery, opened its fire. Our ammunition here gave out, and we were compelled to fall back to the woods to obtain a supply. It was now about 11 o'clock. Our line was again formed and moved forward across the pike and into the woods, where we again en-